

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 03 2008

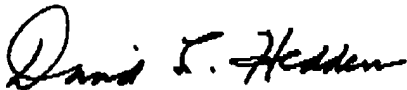
Discussion

U.S. Patent 6,604,567 was filed as U.S. application serial number 10/076057. This application was owned by ASHLAND INC. at the time it was filed, but was later assigned to ASHLAND LICENSING AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LLC, a holding company for Ashland Inc. Pending application serial number 10/627,470 is a divisional application of the current application is a divisional application of U.S. application serial number 10/076057, but was filed in the name of ASHLAND LICENSING AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LLC. In view of these facts, it is clear that the invention disclosed in pending application serial number 10/627,470 and U.S. Patent 6,604,567 were commonly owned at the time the inventions were made.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request a notice to this effect. If the Examiner believes further explanation of Applicants' position is needed, Applicants' attorney will discuss this matter over the telephone or visit the Examiner personally if this may be useful.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Hedden, Attorney
Registration No. 29,388

Ashland Licensing and Intellectual Property LLC
5200 Blazer Parkway
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Phone: (614) 790-4265
Fax: (614) 790-4268
E-mail: dlhedden@ashland.com